

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please **amend** the Abstract to read.

**-- THOMSON MULTIMEDIA BROADBAND BELGIUM**

**Network equipment and a method for monitoring  
the start up of a such an equipment.**

**ABSTRACT**

The invention concerns a network equipment for connection to a local network and a method for monitoring the start up of a such an equipment. This equipment comprises a persistent memory (4) for storing software (5, 6, 7), and advantageously also comprises :

- communication means (8, 9) for connection to said network,
- means (10) for monitoring the start up of the equipment in order to detect a software failure,

means (10) for generating a software failure signal in response to the detection of a failure on the network, wherein said notification is broadcast on the network for reception by said at least one software server.

Figure 1 --